

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Paul R. Aimone et al.

Application No.: 10/501,837

Confirmation No.: 6922

Filed: December 15, 2004

Art Unit: 1742

For: REFRACTORY METAL AND ALLOY
REFINING BY LASER FORMING AND
MELTING

Examiner: N. T. Mai

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the election requirement mailed July 16, 2007, applicant hereby elects the species (a process for making a refractory metal part) covered by Group I, claims 1-8 with traverse.

The Examiner requests that we elect one of the following Groups:

- I. Claims 1-8 directed to a process for making a refractory metal part,
- II. Claims 9-11 directed to a method of rejuvenating a tantalum sputtering target (plasma)
- III. Claims 12-14, directed to a method of rejuvenating a tantalum sputtering target (laser) and
- IV. Claims 15-16 directed to a method of rejuvenating a tantalum sputtering target (hot isostatic pressing).